California GARDEN

50 CENTS
MARCH–APRIL 1973

CALIFORNIA JUNIPER
Bonsai by HARRY HIRAO
Drawing by LESTER JAUSSAUD

FLORAL MEETINGS

March 20	How about skipping the business and program, meeting behind the Organ Pavilion in Balboa Park at 9:30 AM and making a bus tour to: Sarver's Azalea Nursery, Asper's Protea Gardens and lunch at the Sir George's Cafeteria. That is what Floral has planned for you; call the Floral Office about reservations. Cost: $2.50 per person.
April 17	S. D. Floral meeting will be at 7:30 PM in room 101 of Casa del Prado. Sylvia Leatherman will give a program on ferns and begonias.
April 24	Ichiyo School of Ikebana will present a demonstration by Headmaster Meikof Kasuya of the Ichiyo School Japan. This will be held in room 101 of Casa del Prado; 12–5 PM.
April 25	The San Diego Chapter of the California Native Plant Society will present the first CNPS Photographic Exhibit of Botany in room 101 of the Casa del Prado. The program will begin at 7:30 PM; public is invited; no admission.
May 15	This meeting will be a Horticultural Tour of the San Diego Zoo. Meet at the main gate–1:30 PM.

FLOWER SHOWS

March 16–18	San Diego Orchid Society will produce its 27th Annual Orchid Show in the Conference Building of Balboa Park. "Magic Moments with Orchids" will be open to the public; $1. admission. March 16, 7–10 PM; March 17 & 18, 10 AM–10 PM.
March 24–25	Ikebana International, Chapter 119 will exhibit, free to the public, its Fifth Annual Festival of Ikebana & Japanese Art. Both days 11 AM–5 PM.
April 1	Convair Garden Club will present a rose show in 101 of Casa del Prado. Free admission.
April 7–8	Carlsbad's Spring Iris Show will be co-sponsored by S.D.–Imperial Counties Iris Society and the May Company in the May Co. Mall at Highway 78 and El Camino Real. April 7, 12–5 PM; April 8, 10 AM–5 PM. No admission.
April 14–15	"Moonlight and Roses" will be presented by the San Diego Rose Society in Balboa Park's Conference Building. Open to public; April 14, 2–9 PM; April 15, 10 AM–6 PM. $.50 adm.
April 14–15	"A Symphony of Flowers" will be staged by the Escondido Garden Club in the Masonic Temple, 1331 S. Escondido Blvd. April 14, 10 AM–6 PM; April 15, 10 AM–4 PM. No admission.
April 21–22	San Diego Bonsai Club, Inc. will stage its Seventh Annual Exhibit in the Conference Building of Balboa Park. Demonstrations and lectures each day. $1. donation. Sat. 10–10; Sun. 10–6.
April 21–22	"A Rainbow of Iris" sponsored by the San Diego–Imperial Counties Iris Society in room 101 of Casa del Prado. Donation at the door; Sat., 1–6 PM; Sun., 10 AM–5 PM.
April 21	Southland Rose Society of Downey will stage its Annual Rose Show in the Stonewood Shopping Center at Lakewood and Firestone Blvd. 11 AM–4 PM. No admission.
April 28–29	San Diego Geranium Society will present its first show. Both days from 10 AM-7 PM in room 101 of Casa del Prado. Free admission.
April 28–29	Poway Valley Garden Club's flower show at the Meadowbrook School on Meadowbrook Lane at Pomerado Road in Poway. April 28, 2–5 PM; April 29, 10 AM–4 PM.
May 5–6	San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society will join with the San Diego Epiphyllum Society to stage a show in room 101 of Casa del Prado.
May 5–6	Vista Garden Club will present a Standard Flower Show; May 5, 2–5 PM; May 6, 10 AM–5 PM. Location: 160 Recreation Center.

TOURS

March 24	Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Gardens featuring California native trees, shrubs and wildflowers. Leave Balboa Park at 8:30 AM; leave La Jolla Library (Wall & Girard) at 9 AM. Cost: $6.50.
April 14	Palm Springs Desert Tour & Tram to San Jacinto Mt. (probably will include a stop at Hadley's Date Market and a no-host dinner stop). Departure times are the same as above; transportation $8.
May 19	Julian Wildflower Show 1973 (a history of it was featured in the Jan/Feb issue of CALIFORNIA GARDEN). Departure times are the same; cost–$6.50.

The San Diego Floral Association
Founded 1907 — Incorporated 1910
San Diego's Oldest and Largest Garden Club
M-W-F (10-3) 232-5762

OFFICERS

President
Mrs. Louis Kulot

First Vice-president
Mrs. Martin Firth

Second Vice-president
Mrs. Jose Garcia

Treasurer
Dr. George W. Bremner

Corresponding Secretary
Mrs. C. H. MacDonald

Recording Secretary
Mrs. Nelson Fisher

Past President
Mrs. Donald A. Innis

DIRECTORS

Term 1970-1973
Capt. Charles Spiegel
Mrs. John Marx
Mrs. Nibby Klinefelter

Term 1971-1974
Mrs. Emmet Fowler
Mrs. James D. Blick
Mrs. Dixon J. Arnold

Term 1972-1975
Mrs. John G. Clark
Mrs. A. W. Jannoch
Mrs. James M. Daly

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Anne Robinson Tedford
Chauncy I. Jerabek
Alice Mary Clark
Ethel Hoyt
Ada Perry
Samuel Hamill

EDITORS

James L. LaMaster, Editor 755-2798
Bill Gunther, Associate Editor
Alice Mary Clark, Ed. Emeritus

ADVERTISING MANAGERS
Edward Nemitz 239-2945
Larry Carr

DEPARTMENT EDITORS:
Bonsai—Simonne Daly & Shirley Hosier
Book Reviews—Theresa Yianilos
Circulation—Penny Bunker
Ecology—Jim Ard
Herbs—Josephine Gray
Historical—Ethel Hoyt
Ikebana—Helen Ard
North County—Bill Gunther
Photography—Betty Mackintosh
Vegetables—Rosalie Garcia
Native Plants—Helen Witham
Western Flower Arranging—Dorothy Marx
Research—Nibby Klinefelter

CALIFORNIA GARDEN
Published Since 1909 by the SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, California 92101

VOLUME 64 Number 2

CONTENTS

36 A Time to Sow——Josephine Gray
37 Tomatoes in the Living Room?——Barbara B. Rojas
38 Daffodils? Jonquils? Narcissus?——Mrs. K. B. Anderson
40 Shelia MacQueen—Refreshing English Charm——Barbara Jones
42 Speaking about Orchids——Rita Crothers
45 *Dryandra polycephala*—Something Exotic——Carlton Gardner
46 Oriental Vegetables——Rosalie Garcia
48 Notebook of Bonsaiisms for Bonsaiists——Simonne Daly and Shirley Hosier
52 Springtime Roses——Dee Thorson
54 Light Directions in Plant Material and Ikebana Arrangements——Virginia Innis
55 Camellias—Pruning & Disbudding——Mildred Murray
56 Peach Blossom Festival——Ikebana International, Chapter 119
57 Barbados Gooseberry—Leafy Vine Cactus——Gilbert A. Voss
58 Six Irises for Your Garden——Bill Gunther
60 Now is the Time
62 Canyon Trails——Bill Gunther

POSTMASTER: SEND FORM 3579 TO:
CALIFORNIA GARDEN, CASA DEL PRADO, SAN DIEGO, CA 92101

You are invited to subscribe to CALIFORNIA GARDEN or become a member of
The San Diego Floral Association

Fill in box with membership desired and mail with check to
SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION
Balboa Park, San Diego, Calif. 92101

Classification of Memberships:
Individual ..... $ 5.00 ☐
Family ..... $ 6.00 ☐
Sustaining ..... $10.00 ☐
Contributing ..... $25.00 ☐
Magazine Only .... $ 3.00 ☐

Name_____
Address_____
City_____ State_____ Zip_____

California Garden is a non-profit publication of the SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION, a non-profit horticultural organization. The magazine is published bi-monthly. Manuscripts are invited. Manuscripts and illustrations submitted will be handled carefully, but we cannot assume responsibility for their safety. All opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editors or the San Diego Floral Association. ©1972 by San Diego Floral Association. No part of this magazine can be reproduced without the written consent of the Editor. California Garden is on the list of publications authorized by the San Diego Retail Merchants Association. Entered as second-class matter, Dec. 8, 1910 at the Post Office at San Diego, California under the Act of March 3, 1879.

A TIME TO SOW

JOSEPHINE GRAY

IT IS GOOD TO BE ABLE to buy bread at a bakery or pony packs of little plants at a nursery, but baking bread and sowing seeds are basic pleasures ingrained in us from an ancient day when both were necessities as well as satisfactions. When springtime comes and fields and orchards are knee deep in the sunshine yellow of mustard, then every gardener feels that upsurge of spirit which bids him to sow some seeds.

In California, there is scarcely a time when seed cannot be planted: poppies and linaria in the fall, rosemary, lavender and rue in the winter and basil in the hot summer. Still, the real joy of planting seeds is in the spring. I have been getting the earth ready for a seed bed for two weeks, first turning the soil and breaking the clods, then adding gypsite and compost, watering it gently and leaving it to marry. On that morning when something inside me says "This is the day," I go out to turn the soil again lightly, raking it smooth, then sit in the shade, push my old hat to the back of my head and open the coffee can which houses my seed collection. What MUST be planted today? There are so many packets that I cannot begin to use them all in this small bed, but I go over them like a miser cherishing his different kinds of money.

There are many rewards that come with planting seeds. One of them is that you can get varieties of plants not often found in nurseries. The pages of seed catalogues devoted to pansies and petunias, asters and zinnias are enough to bowl over the most casual of gardeners. How can you possibly choose between the pansies: The Cat's Whiskers, Felix and the jewelled Butterfly Hybrids in shades of apricot, pale gold, coral and rose? The zinnias and asters really drive you round the bend; imagine zinnias called Wind Witch and Sirocco. You HAVE to try them. Sirocco is watermelon pink!

When I was a little girl growing up in cold country, our dining room window sills were covered with cigar boxes full of Mother's aster seedlings. They were just ordinary asters but planted in separate colors so that she could paint the kind of garden picture she wanted for summer. What fun she would have now with all the kinds we have to choose from: Duchess, Cactus and Powderpuff. But, these are plants which everyone knows and that must grow. Turn the page to Eryngium or Eutoca, and take a real challenge.

I think it is fun to try something completely new to me every year. Once Chincherinchee was what intrigued me. I was utterly bewildered when grass-like spears came up. It was some time before I discovered that I was raising Star of Bethlehem bulbs (*Ornithogalum*). These are the rewards of joyous ignorance. These newcomers to my garden are not, as a rule, sown in open ground but put into containers and covered with glass and brown paper so that I can watch them carefully and prick them out at the proper time into flats or pony packs.

Of course, there are many new dodges for seed sowing; little pots in a kind of nylon hair net that expand when wet, several kinds of peat pots and mixes of all sorts. Those are interesting for experiment, but I always find something not quite to my liking and go back to my old method. I use finely sifted soil to which I add a tiny bit of twenty percent superphosphate and hydrate of lime. The soil is put into pans, egg cartons, or milk cartons with drainage holes punched in them. After planting the seeds, I place pieces of glass with brown paper over them, or plastic bags with air holes pinched out, on top of the containers. Then, I watch and wait for the miracle, keeping them moist daily by watering with a fine bulb spray, Morning glories come through with heads bent, pushing with their shoulders; geraniums come up looking exactly like geraniums; petunias arrive in a soft green fuzz.

In 1557, Old Thomas Tusser said:

> "In March and in April, from morning to night
> in sowing and setting, good housewives delight:
> To have in a garden or other like plot,
> to trim up their house, and to furnish their pot."

I cannot beat that—good sowing!

TOMATOES IN THE LIVING ROOM

BARBARA B. ROJAS

THE HOUSE PLANT CRAZE is at its peak. Supermarkets, pharmacies, department stores and nurseries all devote large areas to this type of plants. Terrariums and clay pots in exotic and whimsical forms await just the right plant to grace that certain spot in one's home.

For many years, I have admired and secretly envied people whose homes boasted an ivy-covered window sill or an elegant collection of African Violets on the coffee table. Even the Philodendron and Rubber Plant in my doctor's office made me feel insecure. (Modesty aside, I have two green thumbs when gardening outdoors—my definition of a green thumber being one who selects the right plant for the right location and proceeds to care for it in the right way.) However, my verdant appendages—chameleon like—became brown when I tried growing plants indoors. African Violets? That continent would never have willingly lent its name to my poor specimens. Ivy and Philodendrons? Disaster! In desperation, I bought an Air Fern. Within weeks, its vibrant green color had turned to pale chartreuse and finally matched our beige walls.

In January, my husband brought me a tomato plant in a four inch pot and said, "Babsy, this is a new kind of tomato plant. It can be grown in the house." I flinched visibly.

Catching the wild look in my eyes he hurriedly added, "Think of it as an experiment, something just for fun."

"Thou shalt not be a coward," my New Year's resolution, was still fresh on my mind. I took the challenge.

First, I found out all I could about my new plant: "Tomato (New) Pot culture/Window box. PIXIE (dwarf hybrid). Strong stem, 14–18" hgt. 1¾"fruits. Its fast ripening tomatoes have thick walls and more meaty interiors than other small-fruited varieties and flavor just like a big tomato. It is indeed new and especially for indoor/outdoor culture." Certainly sounded like a worthy experiment!

After selecting a bright red glazed, eight inch pot with an adequate drainage hole, I planted PIXIE in a commercial potting mixture—strictly first class for this plant. Something to use as a pot base posed a problem until I thought of my glass pie pan. (I bake pies about twice a year and knew I would never miss the pan.)

Sitting on the floor by an inside wall, PIXIE is scooted across the carpet every day to get sunlight. On warm windless days, I take the plant outside, but I bring it in before evening. Realizing that overwatering is the most common cause of failure with house plants, PIXIE is watered about once a week or whenever the soil is dry to the touch.

To date, there are two large tomatoes and three smaller ones in various stages of ripening. Blossoms and healthy new leaf growth predict a good future harvest, but my change in attitude toward house plants is the biggest accomplishment. Replete with confidence and no longer afraid of failure, I may even try another Air Fern.

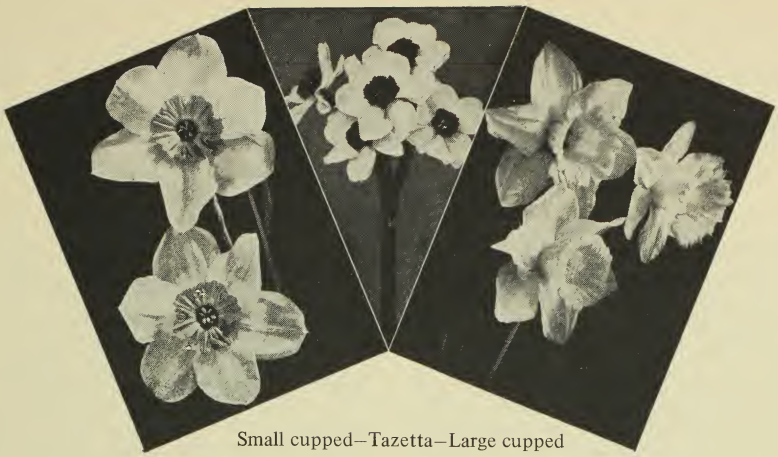
Pixie Hybrid Tomato

5351 Burpee's Pixie Hybrid Tomato

New Indoor/Outdoor Tomato

52 days. Pixie is the fastest-ripening tomato, large or small, ever grown by Burpee. A new hybrid designed specifically for growing in pots, window boxes or in flower borders, Pixie grows 14 to 18 in. tall and bears heavy loads of bright scarlet, smooth, attractive fruits about 1¾ in. in diameter. Tomatoes have thick walls and more meaty interiors than other small-fruited varieties and a real "big tomato" flavor. Plant indoors during winter and place on a sunny windowsill to have delicious tomatoes out-of-season. Fruit will not be quite as large as when grown outside, but they will ripen larger than cherry tomatoes.

Pkt. (30 seeds) 75¢; 2 pkts. $1.40; 3 pkts. $2.00; 1/32 oz. $3.00



Small cupped—Tazetta—Large cupped

DAFFODILS? JONQUILS? NARCISSUS?

MRS. K. B. ANDERSON

SPRING! TIME FOR robins and daffodils! The robins are here in force this year, and we expect the daffodils to be equally prolific in the months of February, March and April. Luckily for southern California, the bloom season of this welcome flower can be extended several more months by planting the fragrant tazetta narcissus also. They start in the fall as early as October and bloom right through the holidays and into the daffodil season. These stems with the many clustered blossoms include the commonly named: Paper Whites, Chinese Lilies, the yellow Soleil d'Or, Grand Monarch, spidery Italicus and the double Bread and Cheese or Butter and Eggs which is a sport of the Chinese Lily.

Technically, the entire group of narcissus, daffodils and jonquils is in the genus Narcissus, but in common usage, only these early bunch-flowered, fragrant tazetta types are called "Narcissus". The large yellow, white, white and yellow and the more recent white and pink trumpet types are known as "Daffodils". In earlier times, and still used in the deep South, the name "Jonquil" applied to any or all of the group. This is an understandable mistake, because the True Jonquil (Narcissus jonquilla simplex) is an important one of the narcissus family. All hybrids of the highly fragrant N. jonquilla are yellow—no whites or pinks. Varieties of it look like a smaller, more graceful edition of the trumpeted or cupped daffodil or of the clustered narcissus. They grow in small clumps with rush like tubular leaves and are very prolific with bloom. Several varieties of jonquils can be used as permanent clumps in our gardens.

In southern California, the culture of this family is not difficult if one is able to pick varieties which do well here. Those varieties that do like our climate (i.e. those that do not require low temperatures) soon develop into clumps with many blossoms and do not need to be dug and divided until they become overcrowded. This condition is indicated by less bloom and smaller flowers. The overcrowded clumps can be dug in the summer—after the foliage has died down—and dried in a shady place. When thoroughly dry (several weeks), they should then be cleaned and replanted in a sunny, well drained plot that has light, sandy, composty soil which preferably has been well screened and prepared. No fertilizer is needed at planting time; manure, especially, should not be used nor any high nitrogen fertilizer. When the bulb is rooted (December) and again when it emerges from the soil, a 4–10–10 or 0–10–10 fertilizer can be used sparingly. Plant large bulbs six inches apart and with at least four inches of soil over them; smaller bulbs can be closer and shallower.

For those who like to plant in pots; obtain large (ten to twelve inch) pots, put plenty of drainage material in the bottom and fill to the rim with a sandy composted soil. Before tamping it down, press six or eight bulbs of one variety firmly into the loose soil; their necks will then be just at soil surface. Now tamp the soil, water well and fill to the rim with something light like peat moss. Place the pots in as

Many gardeners in San Diego County grow daffodils, but there is no daffodil club in the area. Polly Anderson, who lives in La Canada is most eminently qualified author. She personally grows many varieties and species of narcissus and is a judge of the American Daffodil Society.

cold and as dark a spot as you have available. (I noted the other day, at the L. A. Arboretum, potted daffodils setting in a cool spot and covered either with another pot or with a garbage can turned over them to keep them dark.) About the middle of February, you should uncover them, brush off the peatmoss and bring the pots into the light gradually—over a period of three weeks. Buds will probably be showing, and a very small amount of liquid fertilizer (about a cup) diluted to one half or one fourth strength can be used weekly until after blooming. Bulbs are good only one year in pots. Plant this year's potted narcissus in open ground and buy fresh bulbs for potting next year.

BULBS PROVEN SUCCESSFUL FOR OUR CLIME.

Trumpet Daffodills: Diotima, Grapefruit, Spellbinder, Nampa, Arctic Gold, Unsurpassable, Cantatrice, Vigil, Empress of Ireland, Trousseau, Descanso, Roman Candle, Rima.

Large Cup Daffodils: Galway, Fortune, Ceylon, Narvik, Dunkeld, Home Fires, Mr. Jinks, Paricutin, Wahkeena, Binkie, Zircon, Decor, California Gold, Accent, Allurement, Wedding Bell.

Small Cupped Daffodils: Ardour, Jezebel, Apricot Distinction, Blarney, Merlin, Aircastle.

Double Daffodils: Twink, Riotous, Erlicheer, Bridal Crown, White Lion, White Marvel, Double Event.

Tazetta Narcissus: Paper White, Soleil d'Or, Grand Monarch, Grand Primo, Golden Dawn, Geranium, Cragford, Compressus, Silver Chimes.

Small flowered *Narcissus jonquilla, N. triandrus* **and** *N. cyclamineus* **hybrids:** February Gold, Peeping Tom, Suzy, Alpine, Trevithian, Cherie, Jonquilla, Odorous, Sweetness, Liberty Bells, Silver Bells, Parcpat, Harmony Bells.

If you want to try some real miniatures, you will find them delightful little flowers no bigger than your thumbnail, and you can put a dozen or more in a six inch pot: Hoop Petticoat *(N. bulbocodium conspicuus), N. minimus,* Tete a Tete, Hawera, Mite, Bushtit, Angel's Tears *(N. triandrus albus),* and *N. cyclamineus.*

The Southern California Daffodil Society puts on a daffodil show in Descanso Gardens, La Canada (March 10 and 11 this year) where you can see all the above named as well as all the newer varieties. The latest products of breeders all over the world, who are working to get pinker cups, redder trumpets and many other new characteristics will also be on exhibit.

If you need catalogues in order to find the above varieties, I recommend:

Grant Mitsch, Daffodil Haven, Canby, Oregon 97013
Murray Evans, Corbett, Oregon 97019
Daffodil Mart, Gloucester, Virginia 23061
P. de Jager & Son, South Hamilton, Mass. 01982

SILVER BELLS

triandrus albus

SHELIA MACQUEEN— REFRESHING ENGLISH CHARM

BARBARA JONES
BOB IVINS, photos
Courtesy of San Diego Union

"YES,PLEASE let us have FLOWERS in our arrangements!" These were the words she wrote in my copy of her delightful junior flower arranging book, YOUR BOOK OF FLOWER ARRANGING (Faber & Faber, London, 1972). Shelia Macqueen illustrated these words with her flower arrangements during her lecture-demonstration at Casa del Prado, in February.

Most of her arrangements were beautiful and bountiful. One could almost imagine them in Buckingham Palace or Westminster Abbey. (She has done arrangements in both places for the marriage and coronation of Queen Elizabeth.) She combined many kinds of flowers and used variegated leaves with true artistry. She commented that many of her friends asked why she liked "sickly looking" leaves, but the transition of yellow to green in the foliage helped her create her fabulous color combinations. Throughout the presentation,she stressed that a flower arrangement should enhance the room it is in, not stand out.

About mass arrangements, she said, "Don't make all of your flowers stand at attention." She then let some plant material arch gracefully lower than the rim of the container. Although she used many, the flowers were never pressed together so that they lost their individual character or shape. (See picture of arrangement in compote.)

Her use of textures was superb. This was best illustrated in a light, feathery, all foliage arrangement in which she combined calla lily leaves with spring grasses.

One interesting arrangement was done in a flat flower basket. (See photo.) It was a traditional English springtime arrangement. For mechanics, a flat aluminum foil pan was placed in the center of the basket, a 2" x 4" x 6" block of Oasis was placed in the pan, and all was covered with sphagnum moss. She arranged clumps of small flowers to the front, and taller flowers to the back. The space between was filled with short pieces of greenery. It smelled heavenly! This type of arrangement may be kept for a month or more in an English home; one just replaces flowers as they die.

The support media used in most instances was Oasis covered with a one or two inch,mesh chicken wire. She said that most flowers did well in Oasis but not flowers with hollow stems. On several clear

Barbara Jones is a former editor of C.G., a teacher of Ohara Ikebana and holds certificates in Koryu and Saga Ikebana. She is a National Council Accredited Amateur Flower Show Judge.

glass containers only the wire was placed over the opening with a narrow, one half inch, edge clamped to the rim. She broke most of her stems explaining that it was faster and, in time, one learned to make clean breaks not tears. "Place the stems in warm water as it helps them to draw water when the plant cells expand."

Members of the audience spoke to her after her demonstration and many commented on her use of unpainted and untreated plant material and flowers. All agreed it was refreshing to see so many arrangements where the true media of the flower arranger was used. Mrs. Macqueen stated that they were having trouble in England with some who stuck all kinds of junk in containers and called these things flower arrangements. "Sometimes they make great large things and stick a tiny bunch of flowers in somewhere and call it a flower arrangement. We flower arrangers really object to that!"

We told her we are having that trouble in America, too. People are corrupting the art of flower arranging by using things which are not our media. "Stick to your guns!" she said, "It is an art using flowers!"

454-0404

Carlson Travel Service, Inc.

A TRAVEL-EXPERIENCED STAFF

1033 PROSPECT LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA 92037 P. O. BOX 1453

SPECIMEN PLANTS
for your home and for your garden
ALL SIZES
AND VARIETIES

Bennett's
GARDEN CENTER
7555 EADS AVENUE LA JOLLA 454-4241

fashions that don't cost a fortune are always in bloom at

Walker Scott

THE FRIENDLY STORES OF
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Downtown	Clairemont Square
College Grove	El Cajon
La Jolla	Palm Springs
Escondido Village Mall	Lomas Santa Fe
Linda Vista	The City (in orange)

SPEAKING OF ORCHIDS

RITA CROTHERS

THE ORCHID most commonly grown in California is the Cymbidium, so it will be a good one to begin this article. These are grown either in glass houses in the colder part of the state, or out of doors in coastal areas from central California south to the border. The so-called "standard" Cymbidium is a large plant, growing to be many large pseudo-bulbs in a big tub. (The pseudo-bulb is so named because it serves the purpose of a true bulb, but being above ground it is, not a bulb in the usual sense.) Formerly it was thought that they could be planted in raised ground beds in partly shaded places, but this did not prove to be a successful way of growing them. Now, they are grown in pots on benches with air space underneath them.

Cymbidiums are hardy plants that originated on the south slopes of the Himalaya Mountains and other cool parts of Asia, sometimes near snow level. They like a cool situation with good ventilation and partial shade. They do well in temperatures no lower than fifty degrees F., though when plants are grown outside as they are in southern California, the temperature is whatever nature provides. They will tolerate temperatures almost down to freezing, though they may be damaged by frost. Certainly such low temperatures retard them, and they take some time to recover enough to begin to grow again. Cold damaged plants should be allowed to stand and rest until they start to put out new growth. Then they should be divided if need be, potted in suitable compost and returned to a regular growing program.

Cymbidiums require a large pot, friable compost that is mildly acid, plenty of water and frequent feeding, for which I suggest any balanced fertilizer. When dividing them, it is well to leave three or four pseudo-bulbs together to start a new plant that will flower soon. Single bulb divisions may take as many as three years of good growing to reach flowering size again. A well grown Cymbidium plant may produce many spikes of flowers that will last two or more months on the plant. They are a sturdy flower and are useful as cut flowers, corsages and flower arrangements. The flowers are from three inches to five inches across, of heavy substance and in a wide range of colors. One caution: Cut them after the buds are all opened and fully mature. Otherwise, the plant may be late starting its next cycle of growth and flower later each year until eventually it misses one flowering entirely.

There is now another type of Cymbidium which has been introduced in the last few years and is a hybrid between the standard type and some of the dwarf species. They are called "miniature" or "polymin" hybrid Cymbidiums. These are smaller plants that lend themselves to growing as house plants or greenhouse subjects. They like warmer growing conditions than the larger plants, have many flower spikes with small flowers on them and come in many colors. A flowering plant in the miniature section can be cared for in a five to seven inch flower pot. They are virtually a bouquet in a flower pot.

For the novice orchid grower, it is comforting to know that many nurseries now carry orchid compost. The purchaser should know what type of orchid he wishes to repot and be guided by the nurseryman as to what type of compost to buy. While Cymbidiums are more or less terrestrial, most other orchids are tree-perching epiphytes and will not survive in soils or composts suitable for terrestrial orchids. Orchids should be repotted every two or three years, because the compost will decompose over a period of time and tends to hold too much water too long. This causes rotting of the roots and severe damage to the plant. Freshly divided or repotted plants should be given extra shade and restricted watering until the roots have started to grow.

While Cymbidiums are nice for a starter, there are a number of other orchid species and hybrids that can be grown along with them in the Cymbidium yard or lath house. We find that a number of the bifoliate Cattleya species and hybrids from them, as well as Mexican Laelias, can be grown in with the Cymbidiums using the same watering, shading and other care as the Cymbidiums need. The flowers are smaller than the standard, large Cattleyas, but they have more flowers. Grown outside, they have taller stems and more flowers than they did inside the greenhouse. These are hybrids from *Cattleya bowringiana, C. harrisoniae* and *C. elongata.* Also, some of the larger flowering types, the unifoliate species and hybrids, particularly the white Cattleyas, stand the cooler growing very well. We live ten miles inland in northern San Diego County, so I can only speak with certainty about any outdoor growing in equivalent locations

There are also the Zygopetalums, of which *Zygo*

After twenty-three years of working with orchids and orchid societies, Mrs. Crothers, of Vista, has become an orchid expert.

mackayi is the best known. These plants like the same conditions as Cymbidiums, even the same potting material. They grow well and put up tall spikes of green and purple flowers that have a marvelous fragrance. The blossoms are about three inches across and very showy; the plant is good looking, even when not in bloom; they flower in January or February.

Many of the Epidendrums will grow well outside—from reed-stem types to the bulbous ones, now called Encyclias. This is a very large plant family with so many different types of plants and flowers—large and small, colorful and inconspicuous—that it is hard to give a brief description of them. Most important is that they are easy to grow. Epidendrum radicans is a reed-stem type and comes in red, orange, yellow, white, lavender, and mixed colors. They make a nice hedge where they can have some support to hold them upright, partial shade and no frost. Grown in this way, they become a garden plant. We set pots of them into a wooden trough and gradually fill it with discarded compost from the Cattleya pottings. The Epidendrums take hold and grow tall, giving many heads of small, colorful flowers. There are also Encyclia nemorale and Encyclia tampense that do well on the Cymbidium bench. The Encyclias are pot plants that do not take as much room as the reed-stem types.

There are cool growing types of Dendrobiums that will take outside growing—with variations. They are the deciduous species and differ from the Cymbidiums in that they require a resting period in the winter. They can be grown on the Cymbidium bench until the new growths are finished (about November) and then should be moved to a place where they will have strong light and little water. Sometime in January or February they will commence to swell at the leaf nodes; this is a sign that buds are starting to form. At this point, the plant should be lightly sprayed all over when watering, but not pot watered. Water in the pot will cause the plant to make plantlets at the nodes instead of flowers. When the flower buds are advanced enough so that you can tell they definitely are buds, then the plant can be gradually returned to a regular watering schedule. The group of Dendrobiums that take this sort of culture are the so-called nobile types: *Den. nobile, Den. chrysotoxum, Den. farmeri, Den. kingianum, Den. moniliforme, Den. thrysiflorum, Den. densiflorum,* and *Den. superbum,* just to name a few. Do not try to grow the evergreen types or others that are hybrids from them outside an intermediate greenhouse; these species are: *Den. phalaenopsis schroederianum, Den. veratrifolium, Den. gouldi, Den. undulatum, Den. stratiotes.* They will lose all their leaves and finally die.

All of the Dendrobiums are worthwhile, whether the warm or cold growing types. They produce short racemes with three or more flowers at each leaf node

5443
PAPH. GREENVALE
Wolter 'Santa Barbara' x Golden Acres 'Green Sleeves' AM/AOS
Rod McLellan Co.
South San Francisco, Calif. 94080 U.S.A.

Paphiopedilum variety GREENVALE

Dendrobium (Phaleanopsis type)
MILES GORDON, photo

and are covered with flowers when well grown. They are commonly called "cane" orchids, many of them producing tall, slender pseudo-bulbs that require head room. Dendrobium farmeri and Den. kingianum are dwarf types that will fit into a small area. Dendrobiums should be potted in chopped tree fern or fir bark or some other open material suitable for epiphytic orchids. They should be under-potted (ie. in as small a pot as they can be put into). Then, as they grow, add additional flower pots (we prefer clay pots) to ballast them, but never give them more room than they really need. They are heavy feeders.

We must not overlook the Odontoglossums when talking of outdoor type orchids. They come from high altitudes in Mexico, Central America, Colombia and other parts of South America where there are mountainous areas where they can get high enough to find a climate cool and damp enough for them. They like cool, moist locations with a good ground breeze. Air movement is very important to them. *Odontoglossum insleayi, O. pulchellum, O. grande, O. williamsianum, O. cervantesi,* and *O. bictoniense* are a few that should do well on the Cymbidium bench the year round. They will require more shading than the Cymbidiums, but otherwise anything that is good for the Cymbidiums will be all right for them. Since they do like good air movement, they can be elevated on hangers or on a shelf if convenient. Odontoglossums can be potted in fir bark chopped for orchid potting. They like to be kept damp and well fed.

Another orchid that can be grown along with the Cymbidiums and Odontoglossums is the Oncidium. There is a very large family of these. As in other orchid families, not all of them require the same growing, but there are members of this family that do well enough outside, such as *Oncidium incurvum, Onc. sphacelatum, Onc. bicallosum, Onc. leucochilum* and a number of others that come from high altitudes.

Here, I should mention that the names of orchids raise a mental block in many beginners. Perhaps a little of the history of orchids will explain the complexity of orchid names. Of course, in their native places, there is a name for them but in the language of the country and usually a common or descriptive name not known to us. When orchids first began to appear in the collections of tropical plants in England and on the continent, they were a puzzle to gardeners who submitted them to botanists for identification. Sometimes they were given the name of the grower or collector who had found them usually with an "iae", "ae", or "i" ending, but more often they were given a name derived from Latin or Greek and botanically descriptive of either the plant or the flower. This is why the orchids do not have common names that our tongues can handle but have instead double jointed names that frustrate the beginner. However, we must remember that any subject we may pursue will have a language of its own which must be mastered in order to understand the terms used in discussing it. Thus, it becomes necessary to learn the language that goes with the subject in order to understand what we learn.

Add, the orchid family is one of the most numerous plant families in the world plus that it has been a very complex exercise to classify and name them, and we get some idea of the problems faced by taxonomists trying to arrange them into families where they belong. In the process of doing this, some plants have been placed into a succession of families until they finally come to rest under a reasonable heading. Recently the Cypripediums, the type we usually grow, have been moved from the Cypripedium designation to one called Paphiopedilum. These are tropical plants from the eastern hemisphere and differ from the South American and North American species which have different names. Confusing—but valid!

When orchids were first discovered growing on trees in jungles, they were thought to be parasites, and the word went out that was what they were. We still find people who insist that they are a parasitic plant. Yet, in the 1920s, tests were made, and it was proven that they are not plants that feed on a host plant as parasites do. The orchid clings to a tree to get up into the light, or to get off the forest floor. It does not feed on that host. There are a great many such plants in tropical areas, and they are all grouped together as epiphytes (tree perching plants). In the process of proving what orchids are, Dr. Charles Knudsen grew a Cattleya plant in a large bottle in a nutrient agar jell for seven years from seedling to bloom. This proved the orchid did not need a host plant to feed upon in order to survive. He also pioneered the way to grow orchid seed in laboratories instead of having to collect all plants in the wild. This has contributed greatly to the reduced prices of orchid plants and their consequent popularity as a hobby.

I have mentioned repeatedly that certain orchids will grow in the Cymbidium area, because so many beginners start with the Cymbidiums. After they have succeeded with them, there is a desire to try something else. The most help a beginner gets comes from the local orchid society and its members. There the problems of the beginner can be discussed and advice given. There are so many orchid societies all over the West that it should not be hard to find one. Likely a local nursery could give a lead on an orchid grower who would answer questions, or he may know when and where the local society meets.

My husband and I have grown orchids for twenty-five years. We find a session in the greenhouse is like a trip away from home. It has all the benefits of a holiday without risking our necks on the freeways or taking our chances on strange food and shelter.

Dryandra polycephala–Something Exotic

CARLTON GARDENER
GUNTHER, photos

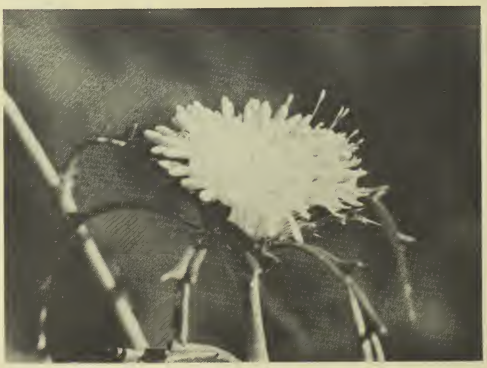
A MEMBER OF THE Proteaceae family, which is most likely unfamiliar to you, *Dryandra polycephala* like Proteus, the Greek god of the sea, also changes form. When it is not in bloom, this plant is most unassuming, because its structure is so light and airy that one can look directly through it. When in bloom, one's gaze halts without passing further. It has clusters of one to one and a half inch blossoms of lemon yellow arranged up and down the nearly naked branches. From a distance, this is one of the most attention-gathering plants in a garden. It appears as a bright mound of color during a time of year when very little else is in bloom.

With closer inspection, it is easy to see the similarity between the South African Proteas and the Dryandras. The stamens of the Dryandra flowers appear to have been drawn from fine yellow wire which presents the same artifical appearance that the proteas have in their blossoms. The bloomstalks are rather long lasting in water–two to three weeks. Dried, they seem to last an eternity.

All Dryandras are native to the southwest corner of Australia which is an area of little rainfall. The plants are usually found growing in pisolitic gravel beds which are often of considerable depth. More specifically, *Dryandra polycephala* comes from a restricted area of the Darling Range northeast of Perth. Like its many brothers and sisters, it is gregarious and grows in communities of its own type, but, at the same time, it is growing in the company of other types of Dryandras. This species retains its individuality by not hybridizing with the other Dryandra species, since it does not bloom during the same period as the other species.

In short, this plant is truly a florist's or arranger's delight, and the lazy gardener's favorite plant.

ABOVE:
From his extensive collection of Australian plants, Carlton Gardener selected Dryandra polycephala for publicity in this issue. He considers it to be particularly adaptable to San Diego's climate and is useful for either landscaping or arrangements. In the above photo, the author shakes a stalk of the "Many headed" Dryandra to demonstrate the sturdiness of the long-lasting flowers, foliage and stems.
BELOW:
A close up of the lemon yellow blossom of Dryandra polycephala illustrates the form of the flower and the arching spurred leaves which make the plant unique.



ORIENTAL VEGETABLES

ROSALIE GARCIA

GOOD ORIENTAL RESTAURANTS—Chinese, Japanese, Polynesian—abound in California. To break away from the monotony of steak and baked potato, one may go out for Oriental food. The ingredients of such exotic meals are familiar foods. The meats are fish, chicken, pork and thinly sliced beef. The vegetables are carrots, lettuce, green onions, radishes, bean sprouts, edible pod peas and mushrooms, with rice and noodles. What makes the meal different is how these are cooked, seasoned and presented. Ginger, seaweed, sesame seeds, sesame oil, soy sauce, anise, coriander and cumin make those tantalizing flavors. Vegetable essence is sealed by dipping in tempura batter and frying or stir-frying a few minutes in a small amount of hot peanut or sesame oil. Texture is noticeable: the vegetables and noodles are crunchy even when drenched in sauces made with lotus flour, rice flour, or even common corn starch.

The presentation is more interesting than our plate of meat, potato and vegetables. Each food is served in a separate dish to which one may help himself in Chinese and Polynesian restaurants. The Japanese often cook the main dish on a little hibachi or chafing dish at the table. The vegetables are carved or sliced and arranged in artistic patterns. The delicious aroma that steams up evokes appetite. The ritual of putting in a little at a time, stirring and serving when the food reaches the right degree of "doneness" preserves flavors that ordinary restaurant food sadly lacks.

With some extra shopping and study, one may vary the food at home and add a dimension to the quality of life by variety and scope of menus. Besides learning the techniques of tempura batter and stir-frying of the common vegetables—most of which come to us from China—there are more exotic vegetables we know little about but which are available in local Oriental food stores.

In San Diego, we are fortunate to have the long established Woo Chee Chong Oriental Food Store. Many of the foods are expensive, because they are imported from the Pacific Islands, Mexico, Japan and more recently from the Peoples' Republic of China. Besides fresh fruits and vegetables, this store has canned and dried foods. The many dried fish create an aroma amounting almost to a stink that is repelling, but forget it and start reading the labels.

This article is confined to fresh vegetables from the produce counter which is so large that it fills one complete end of the store. Tom Gim, of Cardiff-by-the-Sea, is the main supplier of local Oriental vegetables. Many that grow in our climate later in the season are brought in from Central Mexico during mid-winter. In mid-February, I found the following and have divided them into four groups: starchy, salad, green and seasoning.

The starchy roots which can be cooked like our potatoes have different flavors, but are worth trying. The many varieties of taro are the common ones. Woo Chee Chong had three varieties: The big turnip shaped one which is imported mostly from Hawaii is sort of stringy when boiled, but when put through a ricer, it can be used like our potato. The big purple one which we see at Safeway is the one from which they make the lavender paste called poi, a staple of the Polynesians. It is sort of fruity tasting when it has set for a day or so. It is said to be very nourishing and easily digested. Babies are raised on it in the Islands. Two varieties of taro are now grown in our Sacramento Valley: One is small, about the size and shape of a turkey egg, with a rough brown skin; it may be boiled, peeled and mashed with butter. The other is round like an orange, about the same size and used in the same manner.

Another starchy root which looks like a medium sized gladiolus bulb is called See Goo. Mary Hom, employed by Woo Chee Chong, says boil or roast them, peel and mash. They do not taste like anything else, just See Goo. The sooty roots two to three feet long, and about finger-thick are burdock roots which are boiled, skinned, cut in segments and made into salad as we make potato salad, so advises the Time-Life Oriental Cookbook. Burdock grows wild in our fields and some eat the young shoots as greens, but they are grown commercially for the roots. In Hawaii, I saw

stacks of radish looking roots up to three feet long which are starchy and imported from Japan as gobo. One root would be enough for a family of four. In the more tropical parts of the Orient cassavas are staple. They look like big long sweet potatoes, but are not sweet. One of them would feed a family. "We get them from Puerto Rico," says Mrs. Hom.

Vegetables listed as salad ones are mostly eaten raw or only slightly cooked and are available at Woo Chee Chong's. Water chestnuts, which are sooty appearing bulbs that have crisp white flesh when peeled, we know these in chop suey. They usually come to us by way of Hong Kong. Bags of bean sprouts made from both mung and soy beans are produced by a company in San Francisco. One can make his own bean sprouts, but top quality mung beans and the edible type soy must be used. The kind one gets at Safeway are for cooking only.

Nappa or Chinese cabbage has made it to the markets where it has established itself as a crisp salad vegetable, and for which we can get seed and grow in our own gardens. Plant in the fall so that it can mature during the winter along with the other cabbages. Lotus root, big potato-like bulbs, are crunchy when peeled and sliced. Both the seeds and flour made from them are edible. They are the same as the ones grown in our lily ponds from which the beautiful pink long stemmed blossoms stretch up out of the water. They seem too pretty to think of digging, but they grow in the tropical islands as a commercial crop.

And radishes! It takes the Oriental to appreciate them in their many varieties: big, little, sweet and hot. We know the sweet crisp Daikon often two feet long in the supermarkets, but there are elongated turnip looking ones that are also sweet and hot, black ones about the size of a beet. Besides eating them fresh, a real staple is the pickled ones.

Many green leafy vegetables, some familiar and similar to others, we can grow and enjoy. We know Bok Choy which is a form of chard and to be cooked in the same way. Mustard (Gar Choy) has big tender leaves and the biting flavor of our mustard. Chinese Broccoli is really the bud stems of that mustard, and on the order of what we call rapini. Long beans—at least a foot long for eating but will grow a yard long—are a type of pole bean that bears several months. This must be the original bean stalk that Jack grew, because the vines will grow almost indefinitely if they can find a support on which to cling. They are cooked like string beans, but in my opinion are not so good. I have grown them, but they mature later in the summer in this climate. My favorite is the Chinese Okra which looks like an exaggerated pod of our okra, but the flesh is more like a delicate green squash. It grows on a vine and is most spectacular growing on a fence with the pendant fruits often being a foot long.

The edible pod peas, which the Chinese call snow peas and my grandmother called sallet peas—because they came to us from France, are about the best of all. We find them in our markets and seeds at our nurseries. They come in dwarf and climbing varieties to be planted in the fall and mature in the cool months. My dwarf ones, planted in November, are now covered with purple blossoms.

We can also grow the long, slim, purple egg plants which are more tender—even the skins need not be removed—and should be planted now to ripen in the warm months. Our nurseries usually have plants.

Two Oriental winter vegetables we are not too familiar with are those that grow on vines: the bitter melon and the winter melon. The bitter melon is really bitter, a pod-like, pimply, hollow green one that adds contrast to soups and stews, or stir fried with bland vegetables. The winter melon is as big as a medium sized watermelon and is like a squash. It is so big that one must divide it with a neighbor or plan to cook all of it at once and freeze a portion. It adds variety to a menu. If the demand becomes great enough, it will become common, because it is grown in this area.

This is not yet the season for soy beans, but one can soon plant them to produce in the summer. Many varieties of soy beans are raised primarily for livestock feed and the oil; seed stores and catalogues like Burpee's sell the edible seeds. Those who have the room to plant several rows will be rewarded with green beans to be shelled and cooked. They are said to have more vegetable protein than any other vegetable. It takes twice as long to cook them, but with salt pork or ham hocks, they make a delicious and filling meal. Even the dried ones available at Woo Chee Chong's, or in health food stores, are fine eating. (Cook about three hours; half an hour in pressure cooker.) They seldom become mushy like other dried beans, but they are rather crunchy and nut-like in flavor. We do not yet appreciate the soy bean as the Orientals have for centuries. They have made paste, curd, sprouts and desserts from them. The recipes for soy sauces are endless. They all have a distinct saltiness but are tailored for many uses and tastes. There are several shelves of them at Woo Chee Chong's. Along with them are sesame seeds, sesame oil, dried seaweeds and cellophane bags of vegetables canned in brine. Fresh ginger from Figi, looking like big swollen hands with deformed fingers, is the finest I have seen. Mrs. Hom says she keeps a piece in her freezer, takes it out to grate for seasoning and puts it back. It has a tendency to wilt and is easier to grate when kept in the freezer.

All of these goodies are available here in San Diego. Why not try a few to make cooking and eating more of an adventure—a FUN THING?

A NOTEBOOK OF BONSAIISMS

SIMONNE DALY & SHIRLEY HOSIER

Juniper "Robusta Green"
Bonsai by SIMONNE DALY
Drawing by INOR FORNEY

THROUGH THE GROWING and nurturing of miniature trees an individual experiences many things. As he develops his art of Bonsai, he thinks much about it, muses over it, philosophizes about it and even becomes poetic about it. In the mastery of it, he becomes a teacher who knows many wise things to remark about for the benefit of those who are learners. As any reader, teacher, or student might do, he keeps a notebook for information, poignant points and thoughts which appeal to him. He jots them down—not in any special order—just as he finds and thinks of them, or as they are given by or received from others. Here is one such collection, one of simple rules and ideas: style, composition, how-to, symbol, poetry, metaphor, imagery, imagination, discovery, character—all touching a sensitive chord in the true Bonsaiist—all contributing to the creative discipline and philosophy of Bonsai.

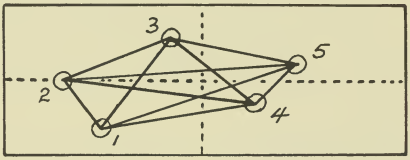
A Bonsai is a living idea.
Be conscious of the laws of nature.
In doing upright trees when branches are trained downward they should look like arrows . . . . short ones like spears.
A wind-swept tree is combed by the wind.
Some bonsai depict strength of character.
Trees may be in a row similar to swallows in flight, avoid the same height.
Old trees show grace, dignity and an air of compassion, and young trees appear unassuming and charming.
Do not threaten nature. . . .enjoy it.
. . . .pampered pets.
Deciduous trees show beautiful bare bones of structure.
Bonsai should be a forthright statement not a decorative art-sin.
Adding any type of decoration to a bonsai is distracting.
. . . .encapsulated landscape.
Intricate details of balance, appropriateness, vigor and grooming.
Much of the trunk of a tree is bared to show bark, stem and leaf.
. . . .trueness, naturalness.

FOR BONSAIISTS

Enjoy the sensuous detail of bare trees.
If some branches grow downward. . . .all of them should follow the same pattern.
The back of a tree shows its support and should be well balanced.
Branches. . . .never entangled or in confusion.
Observe the ways of nature.
Aged pine. . . .coiled dragon in deep gorge or a whirling phoenix.
Stress simplicity and refinement.
Learn from the teacher but avoid his limitations.
In making windswept style bonsai. . . .remember the rhythm of the wind.
Put your whole mind into what you are doing and you will be on the right path.
Exposed roots are like hermits. . . .lean and gnarled with age. . . .marvelous.
A root is a flower that disdains fame.
Technical skill is reached by observation, experience, practice and perseverance. . . .above all, an inner discipline.
Traditional ideas based on the belief in a reverence for the order and harmony of nature.
. . . .reflection and understanding.
Simplicity. . . .a form of grace.
Bonsai encompasses sculpturing, horticulture and spirituality.
A life of asceticism.
The vermilion flowers of a pomegranate bonsai light up the night.
Gnarled juniper. . . .reflections of bygone storms.
Plum blossoms, chrysanthemum and bamboo. . . . gifts from the gods.
How can you think that wisteria is your favorite flower? It grows downward.
. . . .practicing some kind of divination.
The exquisite elegance of a bonsai dropping a leaf or two in the sunlight each time a gentle breeze stirs its branches. Gaze at it; sum it up, but do not try too hard to control it.
In making a forest of trees; they should be paired or combined or separated with authority and style.

Chinese Juniper
Bonsai by MASAO TAKANASHI
Drawing by LESTER JAUSSAUD

Know all the rules of bonsai and break them.
Trees are shaped by the sun, the moon, the lightning.
. . . .moments of unique reflection and a sense of awe.
Never use the words "stunted" or "dwarfed."
Practice achieves technical mastery of an imagined idyl.
Try not to use elaborately carved stands to detract from the simplicity of your bonsai.
Use quality products in all your endeavors.
Strive for grace and beauty even if you might appear eccentric.
Competitive judging of a bonsai is anti-art but appreciation is humbly received.
View bonsai with the eyes of the heart.
Plants with thorns are usually avoided.
Trees are poems the earth writes upon the sky.
Branches of a tree do not grow exactly opposite from the trunk.
Mystic patterns but not substituted natural shapes.
In taking pictures. . . .a hazy overcast day is best.
Life deeply felt and seen has connection with the universe.
Bonsai is harmony between man and nature.
After long practice, heart and hand will be in accord.
Branches should have style and structural integration.
The white of eggs on large cuts is a great healer.
Intelligent and discriminate use of material.
A bonsai with two trees. . . .host/guest relationship.
Trees are nature's air conditioners.
. . . .haunting images.
Traditional methods have centuries of experience to help you.
Bonsai is sharing with others.
In bonsai. . . .nature approves of what you do.
You must have the feeling that the container and the tree are compatible.
Think of light and shadow, space and solid, grand and intimate.
A tree is a celebration of the sun and also a defense against it.
. . . .survival of a vision.
A creation surmounting the harshness of the elements.
Memory made real as the present.
Bonsai shows you the growth of a tree from the clay of youth to the marble of old age.
. . . .enormous sensitivity towards material.
Trees that sometimes rhyme reality and philosophy.
. . . .creative strength.
Feathery delicacy at one extreme, granite power at the other but avoiding all suggestion of exaggeration.
Dreamy shimmery image of a mountain top.
Exploration of subtle details.
. . . .color exploitation.
A tree breathes for you (greenery absorbs carbon dioxide from the air and sends out purified oxygen in return).
. . . .confronting space with exuberant vitality.



An Example of Group Planting
and
Correct Placement of Trees
Drawing by AKIRA SHIMA

Bonsai by MASAO TAKANASHI
Drawing by KINYA WASHIO

K.W.

RECOMMENDED BONSAI BOOKS

THE JAPANESE ART OFMINIATURE TREES AND LANDSCAPES. By Yuji Yoshimura and Giovanna M. Halford.

PRACTICAL BONSAI FOR BEGINNERS. By Kenji Murata.

BONSAI—MINIATURE POTTED TREES. By Norio Kobayashi.

Also another book by a similar name: HOW TO SERIES—BONSAI MINIATURE POTTED TREES. By Kyuzo Murata.

BONSAI FOR PLEASURE. By Kenji Murata and Takema Takeuchi.

INTRODUCTORY BONSAI (and the Care and Use of Bonsai Tools). By Masakuni Kawasumi. Kawasumi Bonsai Tools are famous the world over.

SAIKEI: LIVING LANDSCAPES IN MINIATURE. By Toshio Kawamoto.

A natural looking aged bonsai in a group will stand out like a pink flamingo among reeds.
Bonsai. . . .the expression of realization. . . .simple rather than complex, present rather than absent, obvious rather than hidden.
. . . .creative magic.
To do bonsai you must combine the spiritual with the material, the mystical with the sensuous and the altruistic with a kind of self love. . . .since it is written that you must love your neighbor as yourself.
The mystery of art. . . .take the most banal tree and exalt it.
. . . .insights into perception.
Apply the good life to bonsai. . . .absolute perfection.
. . . .ruggedly expressive.
A feeling of repose is a requisite in viewing bonsai.
Gain a precise knowledge of bonsai. . . .it is the basis of admiring love.
. . . .ever changing creative activity.
Bonsai without a stand is comparable to light without shadow.
. . . .Japanese imagery.
Strength is enduring the perils of life.
Sensitive qualities are as much admired as originality.
. . . .balanced solidity.
The trunk of an old pine seems to have the scales of a dragon. . . .the scales like old scars.
An art that tinkles like wind chimes.
"Wabi" has to do with Japanese culture. It includes spareness, poverty and austerity. Bonsai live an uncluttered life in their somber pots.
Relation to nature is explored by doing a bonsai with a dead top to show that it was struck by lightning.
. . . .ethical beauty.
A forest bonsai is a distillation of variety in unity.
In viewing a Bonsai Show you are enjoying techniques and virtues.
Sketch from nature and perfect the design.
Wind-buffeted trees have stouter trunks and stronger limbs which brings to mind the advice of a sage woman, "It is not what happens but how you handle it."
. . . .swirls of energy.
Bonsai is a resume of the forest.
. . . .optical experience.
There is a deeply mystical and profoundly spiritual aspect to bonsai.
Tiny masterpieces of age, patience and truth.
Contemplative rather than dynamic, monochromatic rather than colorful.
There are pebbles skipped over the rules of bonsai.
. . . .the rhyming of reality and philosophy.
You must practice to get deeper.
Build spaces not masses.
What we see. . . .in short is what we are.

*****

SPRINGTIME ROSES

MRS. WM. A. THORSON

Gather the roses in April.
At the end of June expect them,
But ever remember that you and I
Ne'er gather if we neglect them.
Unknown

IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA where climatic conditions are such that a continuous growing season is encouraged, certain cultural practices must be maintained practically year round.

The brief dormant period for actively growing plants reaches its peak about mid-January. By February, all rose bushes should have been pruned, the cut ends of the canes sealed with a pruning compound, old leaves removed and a dormant spray applied to the bushes and surrounding area. Next comes the application of a good organic fertilizer, preferably one containing magnesium and iron. If the latter elements are not included, a special addition of iron sulfate or iron chelates and Epsom Salts (magnesium) should be administered to insure healthy green foliage. After the fertilizer has been lightly cultivated into the soil, mother nature will hopefully see fit to wash the nutrients down to the feeder root zone, so that it will become available at the time when the new feeder roots are ready to assimilate the food. If not, lend the ol' gal a helping hand. A light application of well aged manure might be beneficial about this time.

Now.....the rose grower is given the opportunity to sit back and relax for a few weeks, and dream his own special dream. Dream quickly! All too soon those dreams must be carefully tucked away for out in the rose garden those little bud eyes are beginning to swell.

As the bud eyes begin to grow among the cane, often more than one eye at each leaf node will start developing simultaneously—branching out laterally from the base of a single bud. All but the healthiest bud should be removed to insure a stronger stem upon which a bloom may evolve. Since the removal of the unwanted buds can be done with the thumb, the procedure is called "thumb-pruning".

As the bud eyes begin to enlarge, you might notice a solitary winged aphid sitting patiently on top of the node waiting for lunch. By the time a few new leaves have appeared, as if out of nowhere a multitude of aphids have suddenly rallied round, given birth to some young'uns and have begun sucking the juices from the fragile young foliage. If the aphids are allowed to multiply unchecked, the resulting damage will be distorted foliage and buds, and even bud drop. Various methods have been used to control the culprits. A strong stream of water from the garden hose is fairly efficient for persons not wishing to use an insecticide. The use of a systemic insecticide has been tremendously successful the past few years; however, if it is sprayed directly on the foliage instead of applied as a soil drench, the spray material should be used at one half the recommended strength to prevent burning the new foliage. In the past, systemic insecticides could not be used around edible crops, but recently a new systemic insecticide with low toxicity has been placed on the market. It is possible that this product may be registered for use around citrus trees, etc. The product is called "Orthene" and comes in pre-measured, individually wrapped pellets that are easily dissolved in water. Perhaps this insecticide is the one we have all been anticipating.

Another problem encountered in the spring is the one of powdery mildew. Mildew usually appears as soon as there is new succulent foliage. The first symptom of its infection is a slight rolling or twisting of the young leaf. Upon examination, you will find that the underside of the leaf has taken on a purplish-red cast. In due time, if the situation is not corrected, the whole shoot will be coated with a white powder; the resulting damage will be marred foliage and possible bud loss or deformed blooms. The practice of preventive spraying has given better results than trying to eradicate mildew once the leaves have become infected. "Benlate", a systemic fungicide, has been used by some rosarians with great success, while other rose enthusiasts prefer "Parnon" which can be used as a preventative or a mildew eradicator.

With aphids and mildew problems abated, the rosarian turns his attention to the food and water requirements of his roses. Like a grizzly bear after hibernation, the rose bush awakens shortly after being pruned and is famished. Nutrients should be available or deficiency symptoms will be readily apparent in the maturing foliage. When the new

growth on an established rose bush is a few inches long, a feeding of liquid fish fertilizer should be given.

Roses enjoy being fed both organic and chemical fertilizers. An organic fertilizer given once a month will insure a balanced diet that is slowly released over a long period of time, while a chemical fertilizer given every two weeks during the growing season will provide immediate requirements.

Supplying adequate water, especially at this time, is extremely important. Actually nothing is more important to the health of the bush than water, as it not only serves as a conveyor of soluble materials within the plant and as a solvent for nutrients in the soil, but it also keeps stems erect and leaves distended.

When the flower buds have started to form on Hybrid Tea roses, rosarians who plan to exhibit them in a flower show or simply wish to produce larger and better quality blooms for their own use follow a practice called "disbudding". Disbudding simply involves removing side flower buds, allowing only the apical bud to remain. The flower buds should be removed by the time they have reached the size of a grain of rice. Single Hybrid Teas such as DAINTY BESS are an exception to the rule; they should not be disbudded, but exhibited as naturally grown.

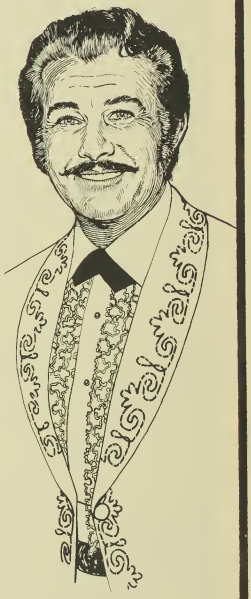
Disbudding a Floribunda rose differs from Hybrid Tea disbudding. On a Floribunda spray, ONLY the apical bud is removed leaving side flower buds to develop. A word of warning: Some Floribundas produce a single bloom on a stem. If it were to be disbudded, the result would be no bloom at all.

Grandiflora roses can either be disbudded or allowed to grow as a spray. If only one bloom is desired, disbud as you would a Hybrid Tea. If a spray is what you seek, follow Floribunda disbudding method.

Exhibition quality blooms require a little extra cultural practice. Just before flower buds have started showing color, feed the bushes a side dressing of blood meal to intensify the color of the blooms. To prevent any damage to either the foliage or to the bloom, do not use any spray material on your roses the week prior to a flower show, unless absolutely necessary. Two days before a show, water the bushes thoroughly to insure the lasting qualities of the bloom.

In order to have roses when you want them involves knowing the growth rate of individual bushes, when to prune and the weather. . .LOTS OF LUCK !

EXPO PROMISES YOU " A ROSE GARDEN " - AND THEN SOME !



Bien Venidos ! Your Expo is blooming — with the greatest flower show ever this year — and that's saying a lot !

We promise you a hundred times more than a rose garden.. we promise you nearly 200 feature displays.. gardens of breathtaking beauty.. a million blooms.. a flower-full Expo You'll long remember.

Many of you participate in the flower show. Many are simply content to enjoy its splendor.

Because of you, we have a big flower show and an Expo matched by few anywhere in the world. It is something to be proud of, something every resident of San Diego County must see.

Don Diego

(Tom Hernandez)

JUNE 22 — JULY 4

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EXPOSITION DEL MAR

BLUE PACIFIC NURSERY

FLOWER SHOW

Fresh flower arrangements by local garden and women's club arrangers-

SATURDAY
APRIL 14, 1973
10A.M---5 P.M.

FREE ADMISSION
hourly door prizes-

JOE LITTLEFIELD
in person

GARDEN SUPPLIERS
DISPLAY BOOTHS

****
* 1-DAY SPECIAL *
* *
* 10% OFF ON BLOOMING *
* *
* EASTER PLANTS *
****

Free Delivery in Point Loma

BLUE PACIFIC NURSERY

Phone 222-1151

4876 Santa Monica, San Diego 92107

LIGHT DIRECTION IN PLANT MATERIAL AND IKEBANA ARRANGEMENTS

VIRGINIA INNIS

North & South in Plant Material

All flora grows toward the warm sun, and one can usually tell which side of a plant receives the most sun. In the northern hemisphere, the sun is high, and its warm rays beam down at a slight angle from the south. Flowers lift their faces and branches to the greatest amount of sunlight. This means that the south side of a plant becomes luxuriant; the north side is frequently sparse. The center of a plant generally reaches up. The east and west sides of the plant angle out, slightly upward and forward to catch the light.

Left is West, Right is East

When considering the importance of the sun to plants and adapting these growth principles to flower arranging, face the container. Consider the front of the container as the south; east is to your right, west is to your left; the back side of the container is north.

Back Side of the Arrangement

Remember that the north side of a plant may be sparse, but some leaves and flowers do grow in this direction. Therefore, if an arrangement is to represent nature, the back side of an arrangement should not be bare. The placing of plant material on the north or back side of an arrangement is referred to in western arranging as "finishing." This finishing also aids in concealing the kenzan.

Left & Right in Boat Arrangements

"Light" is the answer to the question many arrangers have asked since the January/February 1971 issue of CALIFORNIA GARDEN which carried my "Boat Arrangements" article. Arrangers want to know why the homeward bound bow pointed right and the outward bound bow points left.

Many early boat arrangements were kakebana or hanging arrangements. They were hung lengthwise in the tokonoma with the bow toward the light for an incoming boat and away from the light for an outgoing boat. These hanging arrangements were usually well above the eye level where the water in the container could not be seen. Boat bows toward the light were also used for auspicious occasions.

CAMELLIAS —PRUNING & DISBUDDING

MILDRED MURRAY

THERE IS A BRICK PLANTER along my driveway which had been a problem for years. I tried many different plants with no real success. Two years ago I decided to try ACE OF HEARTS. I placed very small plants, about thirty inches apart, the whole length of the planter. They are growing beautifully in full sun. The planter is slightly slanted toward the house; previously, the plants higher—those toward the street—would not grow so well as the lower ones. My camellias have been just the opposite—the ones nearer the street have grown better than the others. I am very happy with this experiment. When they finish blooming, I will prune them heavily, because I want to keep them low.

When pruning, use SHARP cutters to cut about one half an inch above a new scion. Pruning should be done before the growth period begins. If you are limited in space, you may want tall slender plants. In this case, do not cut the top growth. If you want bushy plants which will make a lovely green shrub during the summer, you should prune top growth. Large, old plants become stronger with removal of the inside crossing and lower branches. This will permit light and air to penetrate the plant. All dead wood should be removed. Cross branches should be cut near the main stem. If the cuts are very large, be sure to use tree seal to protect and help callus the cut.

My ACE OF HEARTS has long thin branches which I will cut so that the plants will become more compact.

Disbudding is a summer chore which is most usually done in order to increase the size of individual blossoms. I do not disbud ACE OF HEARTS, because I want many blooms. By July or August, disbudding should be done. If you want especially large blossoms, you should not leave many buds on the plant. The terminal bud should be left and others on that stem removed. For color in the garden, as well as fairly large flowers, leave a few other buds along the stem. There are some varieties that have such masses of buds that it is necessary to disbud even if you want a mass of blossoms rather than prize sized flowers: LOTUS is such a variety.

Mrs. Murray's planter; an individual plant; a close up photo of ACE OF HEARTS blossom.

In the camellia article of last issue, the word German should have preceded "peat". German peat is more expensive, but it does more good for camellias than the regular peat—especially in heavy soil.

HYPONeX® PLANT FOOD
Grows better plants, indoors or outdoors. Clean. Odorless & soluble. 10 oz.–$1.29. Makes 60 gals.
200 Item Catalog Free HYPONeX, COPLEY, OH. 44321

PEACH BLOSSOM FESTIVAL

IN JAPAN, PEACH BLOSSOMS open in early March. It is suspected that the trees secretly schedule their glorious pink blossoms in order to burst forth at this particular time of year to coincide with the celebration of Japanese Girls' Day which is the third day of the third month.

The peach blossom in Japan is considered the symbol of feminine gentleness, softness, serenity and happiness in marriage. In the home, seasonal Ikebana arrangements always include the brilliant pink blossoms along with yellow mustard flowers. The combination of pink and yellow is not particularly pleasing to the Western eye, but to the Japanese they are the traditional flowers used especially to note and to celebrate Girls' Day. They indicate that the girls are deeply loved. Every daughter rejoices in viewing her own peach blossom Ikebana.

This "Peach Fete" honoring the young girls of the family is more commonly known as "Hinamatsuri", the Festival of the Dolls. It has been celebrated in Japan on March third since the Heian Period, over 1,000 years ago. In ancient times, on this day, people made simple paper dolls and touched their bodies with them, symbolically removing all their sins and disease. The paper dolls were then thrown into the rivers, carrying away individual weaknesses.

With the passing of centuries, the dolls became decorative and elaborate. Today they are highly treasured ceremonial dolls, not to be played with, but to be looked at with wonder and admiration. They are prized family heirlooms which are passed from generation to generation, and each new girl-child is an occasion for an addition to the collection. Throughout the towns, seasonal shops are opened which specialize only in the display and sale of these elaborately brocaded dolls dressed in ancient court costumes, including the highly-prized emperor and empress, along with members of the imperial court, ministers, court ladies and musicians—all brilliantly dressed in the finest silks.

In the home for only a few days during the Peach Festival, the imperial dolls are displayed on their own tier of bright red silk steps. Then, they are carefully wrapped and put away until March of the following year. Along with the dolls are included artistic miniature household items, such as decorated furniture, tiny tea sets, delicate rice bowls, palanquins, and pink and white rice candy. Many of these small items are exquisitely lacquered. It is said that parents sometimes sell their personal belongings in order to purchase expensive dolls and furnishings for this festival. By doing this, they demonstrate their love for their children and their joy and pride in their offspring.

Not only a day to enjoy and display treasured dolls, it is also a gay and social occasion. Relatives and friends exchange gifts of dolls and miniature household items and celebrate by eating special foods and delicacies not regularly found in shops at other times of the year. It is a splendid day of parties for the young girls.

The Peach Blossom Festival together with the Iris Festival for boys, the fifth day of the fifth month (see CALIFORNIA GARDEN: May-June 1971), illustrate the love and importance of children in the Japanese family. Significantly each is celebrated with its own special flowers in Ikebana arrangements: the strength of the iris for the boys and the softness of peach blossoms for the girls.

LA COSTA
FLOWER SHOP
& NURSERY
horace and
mary m. anderson
400 La Costa Avenue
(714) 753-4336
Leucadia, Calif. 92024

Pixie Treasures
MINIATURE ROSE NURSERY
Hardy and
Everblooming
TINY ROSES
6 to 12" tall
Send for list
(714)
639-2876
DOROTHY CRALLE
12851 OLD FOOTHILL BLVD
SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA 92705

Antonelli Brothers
TUBEROUS BEGONIAS
2545 Capitola Road
Santa Cruz, California 95062
36-page color catalog 25 cents

Walter Andersen Nursery
Nursery Stock and Garden Supplies
for Beautiful Gardens
We Specialize in Indoor Plants
free
GARDEN
CLASSES
10:30 AM
each
Thursday
and
Saturday
Pacific Highway (101)
Sports Arena Blvd.
Rosecrans
Enterprise
Barnett Ave.
Midway Drive
3642 Enterprise San Diego 92110
Phone 224-8271

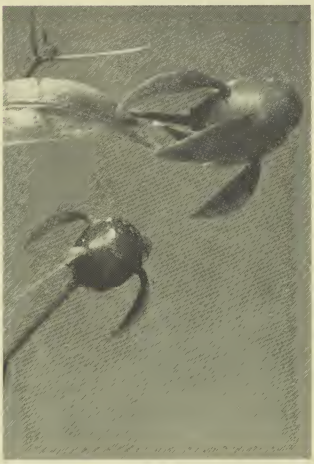
BARBADOS GOOSEBERRY—

A LEAFY VINE CACTUS

GILBERT A. VOSS
BETTY MACKINTOSH, photos

THE PLANT

THE FRUIT



THE BLOSSOM

SOME STRANGE PLANTS similar to the ancestors of our desert cacti grow in tropical Mexico, South America and the West Indies. They are leafy vines or trees known as *Pereskia*. The Barbados Gooseberry, *Pereskia aculeata*, is thought to be the most primitive of all cacti. Its leafy appearance would suggest anything except a cactus, but the flowers and the felty cushions (areoles) which produce the spines show botanists that it indeed belongs to the cactus family. Its singular appearance among other cacti is not surprising when we learn that cacti have lost their leaves as an adaptation to increasingly drier conditions during their evolution and radiation—normal looking leaves remain only in a few primitive ones.

Pereski aculeata was among the very first cacti cultivated. It was brought to Europe from the West Indies in the latter part of the sixteenth century. It was named for Nicholas Claude Fabry de Peiresc (1580–1637), a French astronomer and plant collector. As early as 1697, it was known as Blade Apple and is also commonly known as Lemon Vine. It is widely cultivated in frost-free climates for its lemon scented flowers and edible fruits. I have tried the fruits and found them similar to those of many other cacti, very sweet and rather tasteless, with many large hard seeds. Probably its greatest popularity in this county has been as a grafting stock for other cacti. Its use simplifies grafting to an absolute minimum: a *Pereskia* stem is merely sharpened to a point, jabbed into the base of the scion and rooted.

Pereskia aculeata is grown mainly as a hedge or ornamental vine. It needs to be supported by a fence, trellis, or veranda. With age, it becomes quite large. Plants may be propagated easily from seed or by rooting cuttings in water. It is fast growing but needs protection from heavy frosts in the inland areas.

SIX IRISES FOR YOUR GARDEN

Bill Gunther

The new rebloomer, CASCADE PASS.

EVERY DAY, many new homes are being built in the ever-proliferating housing projects which concentrate along the coast of southern California. Many of the purchasers are from other areas of the nation; they are new residents of California. Perhaps you are one of them. If so, it is to you that this article is directed.

Someone just like you recently said "In my small new garden I have room only for 6 irises. Which will they be?" This article is the answer to that question.

Don't send for the irises which are growing in your old garden back in the midwest; those varieties probably will not do well here. If you have room for only six irises here, each of those six should be the best performer of its type for this locality. For variety, your half dozen irises should differ from one another in size, color, and type. For balance, a couple of them should be species. The qualities of being vigorous in growth and bountiful of bloom are far more important than whether or not the variety is a current favorite among iris specialists. Within those guidelines, my personal recommendation is that you obtain the following six irises—they are not listed here in any particularly significant sequence:

CAESAR'S BROTHER is the name of the iris which, among all the hundreds of varieties of "Siberian" irises, performs best in southern California. Siberian irises constitute one of the most distinctive groups within the Iris Genus; they have tall grass-like foliage and they have graceful butterfly-sized blossoms atop tall unbranched slim stems, which are hollow. (These tall slim hollow stems constitute a "key" which differentiates Siberian irises from other types.) When next you go to the County Administrative Center on Pacific Highway, to protest your property tax bill, stroll along the walkway from the West Entrance to the waterfront. The large irises which line both sides of the walkway are "Tall-Bearded" irises; notice that they have stems which are thick and branched, and notice the "beards" on the blossoms. (The blue variety is STEEPLECHASE; the white variety with the orange beard is FLAME KISS.) At the point where the walkway widens to provide passage around the statue and pool, look on both sides to see clumps of Siberian irises. Note the tall grass-like foliage and the slim unbranched bloomstalks, topped with beautiful dark purple blossoms. This Siberian iris is CAESAR'S BROTHER. It performs well in the County Administrative Center garden because there it has a setting which provides rich soil, plenty of sunshine, frequent watering, and cool moist waterfront atmosphere. At this location, CAESAR'S BROTHER blooms six months of the year; in more inland locations the bloom season is somewhat shorter. When admiring the clumps of CAESAR'S BROTHER at the County Administrative Center, imagine how much charm a similar clump would add to your own garden, and imagine how much grace a few bloomstalks from that clump—arranged in a centerpiece—would add to your next dinner party. Try it.

HOLLEYBLU is a "Louisiana" iris; it is a hybrid derived from the wild irises which grow in the swamps and bayous of Louisiana. With that heritage, it understandably needs plentiful moisture; it also likes rich soil and plenty of sunlight. Given those three conditions, and the climate of the southern California coastal area, it will provide beautifully branched bloomstalks in April and May. Each of them can be cut and placed in a container to become a self-sufficient arrangement in itself—an interestingly zigzagged and branched stalk up to three feet high, beautifully balanced foliage, all finished off with several big beardless purplish-blue blossoms of excellent substance and good lasting quality.

CASCADE PASS, for the coastal strip of southern California, is the very best exemplification of the truly new and modern tall bearded iris hybrid. As a composite of those qualities which the hybridizers consider most important as goals, it is unsurpassed to date. It exhibits an ideal form of blossom, with lavish "ruffling", excellent "substance", and wonderfully pure white color subtly accented by a cream-color beard. It is superlatively vigorous, and superimposed on all that, CASCADE PASS,in this area,blooms off and on all through the year instead of just at the springtime "iris season". Like all bearded irises, CASCADE PASS likes as much sunshine as possible, good drainage, and good soil. Given those conditions, it produces bloomstalks which are branched in a manner which spaces the blossoms almost like a candelabra. A clump in bloom is an eyecatcher in any garden. And in the home, used in arrangements, the sheer white blossoms attract all attention both during the daytime under natural light and in the evening under artificial light. Because this iris is newly-introduced, and because it is so outstanding, it is in high demand among iris specialists. That is why the price for it is high. But for anyone who can afford the price, it is an acquisition truly worthy of a bit of extravagance.

OCHROLEUCA is a species iris which is native to some areas of southern and eastern Europe: botanically it is known as *Iris ochroleuca.* It is a species of the "spuria" series; it and most other garden spurias have erect vertical foliage which somewhat resembles that of the cattails which grow in swamps. But spurias do not require swampy ground; they perform best in rich soil in a sunny and warm location. They appreciate frequent watering and generous fertilizing during the winter and spring months, and they show their appreciation by tall strong growth and profuse bloom. The bloom season lasts from March to the first of June, after which the spurias can be completely neglected and allowed to go dormant until fall, when new growth starts. Among all the spurias, *Iris ochroleuca* is perhaps the most vigorous; it has thick vertical bloomstalks which average about four feet tall; up to six blossoms may be open simultaneously per stalk; the blossoms are spaced at intervals close against the upper portion of the stalk; the blossoms are beardless and they are pure white except for golden colored patches (called "signals") in the center. The erect bluish-green foliage of a clump of ochroleuca makes an attractive accent piece in the garden even before it burst into sparkling bloom; cut stalks are excellent for use in arrangements, and individual blossoms can be substituted for orchids in corsages.

CORDON BLEU FARMS
418 Buena Creek Road
San Marcos, Calif 92069
IRISES OF ALL TYPES :
Tall Bearded, Arilbreds, Spurias
Louisiana, Siberian, Rebloomers
Pacific Coast Hybrids, Medians

PSEUDACORUS is a swamp iris species which is native to the freshwater marshes and brooksides of Europe. Because it is a species, it properly should be referred to as *Iris pseudacorus.* As in many botanic names, pronunciation is open to debate, but the American Iris Society indicates that the preferred punctuation is "soo-da'koh-rus". It is so versatile that it will perform suitably in almost any garden location, but when grown in rich wet soil in full sun, it demonstrates unequivocably that it is the most vigorous and the tallest-growing of all irises; it grows to six feet tall. Bloom season for Pseudacorus in this area is from February to May. Contrasted with the foliage, the beardless blossoms are disproportionately small (about three inches in diameter) and they are surprisingly fragile, but they nonetheless are attractive. The blossom color ranges from creamy white to bright yellow; brown "signal" spots decorate the centers.

ULTRA is a hybrid reblooming bearded iris of the "median" category. It is a relatively small iris, neither the bloomstalks nor the foliage grows more than 12 inches tall. It also is a "historic" iris; it was introduced way back in 1926. But it looks just as bright and chipper as the most recent introduction, and it is selected for this listing particularly because it loves our climate so much that here, with just a minimum of pampering, it blooms and reblooms and reblooms again throughout the year—instead of just blooming in the springtime. The blossoms are an attractive combination of velvety purple, sky blue, and white, and the lower petals (which irisarians refer to as "falls") flare out horizontally. Because it is small and charming, ULTRA is ideal for use in centerpiece arrangements for the lunch and/or dinner table. Give ULTRA a place in your garden which is sunny and which has good drainage; it asks no other special favors. Because this iris plant is low and compact, it is an ideal selection for growing in a rock garden.

Each of the varieties and /or species discussed in this article may be obtained by mail order from either of the two commercial iris growers of San Diego County. Prices for 1973 are: CAESAR'S BROTHER $1.00. CASCADE PASS $15.00; HOLLYBLU $ .50; *Iris ochroleuca* $ .50; *Iris pseudacorus* $ .50; ULTRA $1.00; plus 5% State Sales Tax and one dollar per order for packing and mailing charge. A detailed listing with brief descriptions of many other irises (both hybrids and species) may be obtained free by addressing a postcard request to either of those commercial growers. Their addresses may be obtained from their ads which appear on this page.

PILLEYS GARDENS
P.O. Box 296
San Marcos, CA 92069
BEARDED IRISES
DAYLILIES
SPURIA IRISES

now is the time

–A Cultural Calendar of Care from our Affiliates–

BEGONIA SOCIETY

Margaret Lee

Now is the time

to get your begonias off to a good start.

to clean up – clear out all dried leaves, spent blooms and dead wood.

to trim back stragglers and restake where needed.

to prune for shape, and to encourage more side-growth, but it is advisable to prune gradually—not more than 1/3 of the plant at a time to avoid too great a shock.

to apply a top dressing to make sure roots are covered if the soil is still light & porous. If heavy and packed, time to repot.

to start feeding if a yearly program has not been carried out; once a week with 1/4 strength of any all-purpose plant food is better than once a month with a full strength solution.

to water when needed.

to spray for insect and disease control.

to start tubers for summer bloom.

BONSAI SOCIETY

Masao Takanashi

Now is the time

to repot. Leave 2/3 of roots and soil intact; gently brush soil from remaining root ball being careful not to tear growth.

to shape remaining root system to conform with shape of container. Use sharp tools.

to do touch-up pruning of branches.

to mix equal parts of sand, topsoil and planting mix. Cover drainage holes with screen, add a layer of small gravel, then a layer of new soil mix. DRY to prevent air spaces. Plant, then water from the bottom until moisture reaches top.

to repot deciduous trees, the flowering (except the quince) and the fruiting trees each year. Conifers can go three to five years.

CACTUS/SUCCULENT SOCIETY

Helen Claydon

Now is the time

to repot in new soils. Mix of equal parts garden loam, leaf mold and sand for most succulents. Cactus will require more sand & some gravel. The packaged soil mixes can be used for cactus if more sand is added. Cover drainage hole with layer of broken clay pots, then potting soil. Decorative glazed pots must have a drainage hole. Be sure plant is dry and clean. Center nicely–pots should be 2 inches wider than the plant. Vertical plants need a pot half as wide as the plant is tall. Settle the new mix around plant without packing.

to watch watering – not too much. Succulents are liable to rot from excessive moisture. Broken roots will heal if plants are kept dry for 2-3 weeks. The less shock a plant receives in transplanting, the better it will adjust. MUST provide good drainage, promoting good soil aeration.

CAMELLIA SOCIETY

Shala McNeil

Now is the time

to prune out the dead branches and twigs; shape up your plants by pruning to the growth rings where needed. Put sealer on cuts that are over pencil-size to prevent die-back.

to make grafts of new varieties before the growth-eye feathers.

to repot in 1/3 top soil, 1/3 peat moss, 1/3 oakleaf mold into next size container if the plant needs it. (Do not OVERPOT and do not feed for six months after repotting.)

to start feeding with your choice of food–can feed a level teaspoon of cotton seed meal per 1 gal. size, 2 for 2 gal. size, etc., every six weeks. Can use a commercial camellia food or liquid fish.

to buy camellia plants while in bloom.

to keep all fallen blooms picked up to prevent petal blight.

in April to start spraying for looper worms and aphids with malathion, (with no oil base) or spectracide. Use any safe type of insecticide for leaf chewing insects.

DAHLIA SOCIETY

Mildred Middleton

Now is the time

to remove tubers from winter storage and place in vermiculite, sand, or other starting material, in a warm location to sprout. Beware of too much moisture.

to prepare planting area by broadcasting 2½ lbs. of superphosphate and 2½ lbs. sulphate of potash for each 100 sq. ft. of ground. Drive stakes when planting.

to plant after two or three weeks–dig hole six inches deep, place sprouted tuber on its side with sprout up, two inches from the stake. Cover with two inches of soil, moisten, but do not keep wet. As plant grows, gradually fill hole to ground level.

EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY

George French

Now is the time

to feed your epiphyllums with low nitrogen. Buds are swelling on stems.

to check trellis and to see that plants are well secured.

to check that epi's are in filtered sunlight where the slanting rays of the afternoon sun will encourage development of buds.

to check plants for drainage, in April–do not move plants at this time, continue feeding for bloom.

keep pests controlled.

FUCHSIA SOCIETY

Penny Bunker

Now is the time

to do any last pruning in March, shaping ground planted fuchsias, and cutting back container and basket plants.

to take cuttings.

to start pinching on a regular schedule the plants that were pruned earlier. This thickens the plant. Pinch after three pairs of leaves form, and continue pinching at every new set of three until six weeks before desired bloom.

to feed half-strength hi-nitrogen liquid fertilizer after new growth has a good start. Plants that

were pruned early can have a larger amount of food or long-range, slow releasing crystals. To be safe, it is better to under-feed than to over-feed.

to spray at the first sign of white fly or inch worms. Be sure to water thoroughly a day before spraying; fog the day of spraying.

GERANIUM SOCIETY

Phil Bush

Now is the time

to start pinching back for shape.

to give your plants a feeding with hi-nitrogen fertilizer.

to make sure that your plants are clean of dead foliage and flowers.

IRIS SOCIETY

Art Day

Now is the time

to watch for caterpillars—they will destroy unopened buds. Systemic sprays applied as stalks are growing will usually free irises of aphids and thrips. The latter are more destructive; their chewing will streak and ruin flowers.

to fertilize with a low nitrogen all purpose, or liquid fish fertilizer.

ORCHID SOCIETY

Lois Donahue

Now is the time

to continue feeding a hi-phosphorus fertilizer to your flowering cymbidiums. If not in bloom, give them hi-nitrogen.

to watch the moisture content of your pots if they are in the open and subject to rainfall—give a little protection if possible.

to finish repotting the cymbidiums that did not bloom.

to bait for slugs and snails.

to get out the dry Malathion if those little beasties, aphids, come to visit you.

to feed the outdoor cyps—every other week is not too much—they are working hard and will enjoy liquid fish fertilizer.

to check the light intensity as our season is changing—keep them in about 50% shade.

to divide and repot the cattleyas that are producing new growth and roots—if they need it. Be sure to use loose, porous mix.

to visit your nurseryman or orchid grower to order and enlarge your collection.

ORGANIC GARDENING

John Miller

Now is the time

to hit the beach and gather seaweed (any brown that washes up); bury it in the garden three to six inches deep; can use it on top of ground as a mulch. Seaweed has more nitrogen than some barnyard manures, potash and many other materials. It is one of the finest of soil improvers.

to grow lettuce, carrots, chard, parsley, peppers, Tahiti squash and tomatoes. (Tomatoes should have been started indoors in Feb., but it is still not too late.) These can be started outdoors now in San Diego area—Spring Valley/El Cajon areas should be prepared to hot-cap them at night.

to plant aloe vera, and some Russian comfrey. Any herbs may be planted now in loose soil, well drained and lightly fertilized.

ROSE SOCIETY

Dee Thorson

Now is the time

to water—water—water while plants are rapidly growing.

to fertilize with a liquid fertilizer.

to battle aphids, either by hosing off or using an insecticide. to watch for any invasion of thrips—eliminate this pest by spraying just the bud with "Cygon" if you are not using another systemic insecticide at this time.

to check for possible early inch-worms and treat if necessary with Malathion or powdered Sevin. (Liquid Sevin may burn the foliage—even when used ½ strength.)

to use preventive spraying against mildew.

to give each bush ¼ cup blood meal just before buds start to show color. This will intensify the color of the blossom.

to read "Growing for Exhibiting" by Harold H. Allen.

7580
Hillside Drive

Overlooking La Jolla Shores, just up the hill from Torrey Pines Road, or down the hill from Mt. Soledad, is **HILLSIDE NURSERY**. Whichever approach you take, you'll find a WONDERLAND OF PLANTS — rare Begonias, Philodendrons, Tropicals, fine House Plants — a wide variety of well grown nursery stock.

Corey Hogewoning, Prop.

WATER LILIES
FREE CATALOGUE
Pool Building & Planting Instructions
VAN NESS WATER GARDENS
Closed Sundays and Mondays
2460 North Euclid Avenue
UPLAND, CALIFORNIA 91786

SAN DIEGO'S LARGEST NURSERY FACILITY

. . . with complete, personalized attention to your every garden need.

Presidio Nursery and Florist

LINDA VISTA RD. at MORENA BLVD.
PHONE 297-4216

LA MESA NURSERY

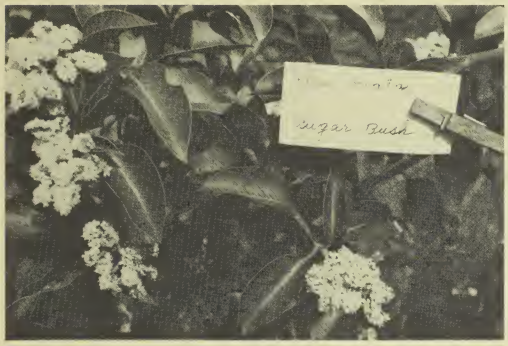
"Everything for the Garden"

Dramatize the garden.

Bankamericard Delivery
Master Charge

FREE GIFT WRAPPING

8480 La Mesa Blvd. — 466-5703



THIS IS AN INVITATION. You are cordially invited to visit an "Open Garden". The opening date is Easter Sunday, April 22. If you are busy on Easter, then come any day during the following week, up to and including April 29. The time is 9AM to 5PM each day. Admission is free.

The place is "Canyon Trails", at 5175 68th Street, in East San Diego. It is a couple blocks north of El Cajon Boulevard.

Canyon Trails is something unique. It is a canyon of native annuals, perennials, shrubs and trees which has been developed by Helen Witham, who lives on the edge of the canyon. It is her property. Rustic trails wind through the canyon, and for the open house week Helen will label the plants alongside the trails to identify them with both common and botanic names.

Visitors can feel confident that the names they see on those tags are correct. That is because native plants are not just a hobby with Helen; they also are her profession. She is the Associate Curator of Botany on the Staff of the Natural History Museum. She is a State Director of the California Native Plant Society. She has long been the leading advocate of the projected Florida Canyon botanic garden in Balboa Park, which now has received approval and initial financing. She is author of the newly published FERNS OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY. In her spare time, she maintains her "Canyon Trails" garden.

Every year when Helen's annual vacation week comes along, she relaxes by holding her "open garden" week, during which she personally escorts hundreds of garden visitors through her canyon. Naturally, the visitors ask many questions. Helen answers all the questions in the quiet informal friendly manner which typifies her very unpretentious self.

The photos on this page were taken during the open garden week at Canyon Trails last year. Uppermost is the sign which stands in front of the property to help visitors find the garden. Next is a view of part of the canyon; it shows Helen (at left center, in dark slacks) animatedly telling visitors about the plants. The next photo shows the sugar bush, *Rhus ovata*, wearing its identification tag attached with a clothes pin. Below is the monkey flower, *Mimulus puniceus*, which abounds in the canyon.

These plants, and many many more, will be in full bloom for you to admire during the open garden in Canyon Trails during Easter week. Helen invites you to come to see them.——————BILL GUNTHER

SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

CASA DEL PRADO, BALBOA PARK
232-5762
(Under the sponsorship of
The Park and Recreation Dept., City of San Diego)

Third Tuesday, Casa del Prado
Pres: Mrs. Louis Kulot 222-5480
2732 Azalea Drive, San Diego 92106

FLOWER ARRANGERS' GUILD OF SAN DIEGO, First Thursday, Casa del Prado, 9 a.m.
Pres: Mrs. Dixon J. Arnold 278-5070
5377 Mt. Burnham Drive, San Diego92111

MEMBER CLUBS

ALFRED D. ROBINSON BRANCH, AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY
Third Friday, Homes of members, 10 a.m.
Pres: Mrs. John Marx 459-6417
1216 La Jolla Rancho Rd., L. J. 92037

CONVAIR GARDEN CLUB
First Wed., Casa del Prado, 7:30 p.m.
Pres: F. Bornemann 466-5525
4618 Edenvale Ave, La Mesa 92041

COUNTY CIVIC GARDEN CLUB
Every Tues., 12-1 p.m., Garden House, Grape and 101 Civic Center
Director: James Saracino 239-9511
1600 Pacific Highway, S. D. 92101

IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER NO. 119, Fourth Wed., Casa del Prado, 10 a.m.
Pres: Mrs. James Ard 276-6398
3031 Karnes Way, San Diego 92117

LA JOLLA GARDEN CLUB
First Tuesday, 1 p.m., St. James Hall, 7776 Eads Ave., La Jolla
Pres: Mrs. Harley Cope 459-7688
6608 Avenida Bizarro, La Jolla 92037

LAS JARDINERAS
Third Mon., 10 a.m., Homes of members
Pres: Mrs. E. Laird Landon 454-6012
1451 Inspiration Dr., La Jolla 92037

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF SAN DIEGO CO.
Fourth Thursday, Casa del Prado, 7:30 p.m.
Pres: William Spann 278-2410
4101 Mt. Bigelow Way, San Diego 92111

ORGANIC GARDENING CLUB
Third Friday, Casa del Prado, 7:30 p.m.
Pres: Chet Brooks 223-0306
4739 Coronada Ave., San Diego 92107

PALOMAR DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
Director: Mrs. Donald A. Innis 225-1464
3211 Trumbull St., San Diego 92106

POINT LOMA GARDEN CLUB
Second Wed., S.D. Federal, Rosecrans & Canon, 10 a.m.
Pres: Mrs. F. G. Wood 224-3051
750 Albion St., San Diego 92107

SAN DIEGO BONSAI SOCIETY, INC.
Second Sunday, Casa del Prado, 1-5 p.m.
Pres: Chris Butler 466-9404
2163 Glencoe Dr., Lemon Grove 92045

SAN DIEGO BOTANICAL GARDEN FOUNDATION, INC.
Second Thursday, Casa del Prado
Pres: Stanley Miller 444-8141
1590 E. Chase St., El Cajon 92020

SAN DIEGO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY, 1st Sat., Casa del Prado, 1:30 p.m.
Pres: Mr. August Pfeiffer 280-4444
5163 E. Bedford Dr., San Diego 92116

SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY
Second Friday, Casa del Prado, 7:30 p.m.
Pres: Bill Nelson 298-3349
4253 Maryland St., San Diego 92103

SAN DIEGO COUNTY DAHLIA SOCIETY
Fourth Tuesday, Casa del Prado, 7:30 p.m.
Pres: Abe Janzen 277-4473
3521 Belford St., San Diego 92111

SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY
2nd Wednesday, Casa del Prado, 7:30 p.m.
Pres: George French 223-8258
3624 Voltaire St., San Diego 92106

SD-IMPERIAL COUNTIES IRIS SOCIETY
Third Sunday, Casa del Prado, 1:30 p.m.
Pres: William H. Leslie 282-5469
3221 Gregory St., San Diego 92104

SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY
First Tuesday, Casa del Prado, 7:30 p.m.
Pres: Benson B. Hardy 448-0659
9443 E. Heaney Circle, Santee 92071

SAN DIEGO FUCHSIA SOCIETY
Second Monday, Casa del Prado, 7:30 p.m.
Pres: William Selby 424-3432
1333 Triton Ave., Imperial Beach 92154

SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY
Third Monday, Casa del Prado, 7:30 p.m.
Pres: Harry Cutter 466-7579
4671 Toni Lane, San Diego 92115

S. D. TROPICAL FISH SOCIETY
Second Sunday, Casa del Prado, 7:30 p.m.
Pres: David Tohir 427-1665
656 Claire Street, Chula Vista 92010

SOUTHWESTERN GROUP, JUDGES' COUNCIL CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
First Wednesday, Casa del Prado, 10:30 a.m.
Pres: Mrs. John Marx 459-6417
1216 La Jolla Rancho Rd., L. J. 92037

SERVING SAN DIEGO AREA

TREES

SERVICE & CONSULTATION
PL & PD INSURED - LICENSED

AFFILIATED WITH:
EUREKA ENTERPRISES
INT'L SHADE TREE CONFERENCE

William C. Studebaker
ARBORIST (Tree Surgeon)

Call
277-9045
OR 583-9221

15 YRS WITH THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
PARK DIVISION
AS TREE SUPERVISOR

MISSION HILLS NURSERY
City of San Diego's Oldest Nursery ; Always Growing Since 1924
INTERIOR PLANTS A SPECIALTY
VISIT OUR LARGE EXOTIC TROPICAL GREENHOUSE DISPLAY;"IT'S DIFFERENT"
1525 Fort Stockton Drive San Diego 92103 Phone 295-2808

G. S. JOHNSON ROSE NURSERY
Rose Specialists
Bushes - Climbers - and Tree Roses
Bare Roots in Season
in cans, available all year
Spray Materials and Fertilizers
24 YEARS IN SAME LOCATION
8606 Graves Ave., Santee
corner Graves & Prospect
Off Highway 67
Phone: 448-6972
Open 8 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. Closed Wednesdays

THE LIVING ROOTS
When you see how beautiful our house is, you'll be taking some of it home.
Exquisite Indoor Plantings
Costs nothing to browse!
(5% OFF WITH THIS AD)
4574 PARK BLVD.
2 Blocks From Adams Avenue
298-3468

RETURN REQUESTED
RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

CALIFORNIA GARDEN
San Diego Floral Association
Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park
San Diego, CA 92101

DAWN REDWOOD
Bonsai by JOHN NAKA
Drawing by LESTER JAUSSAUD